N. Madhavan Valiathan (Tiruvalla) and Mr. C. Padmanabha Pillai (Karunagapalli), also spoke on the subject.

Reply.—What is now sought for is the rescission of an order of Government already passed. This is not practicable, especially in the present case. On the advice of the Madras Government and with a view to set free a larger fund for primary education, the present rates of fees, which were admittedly too low, were raised in the College and in the High and Middle Schools for boys, and fees were for the first time imposed for girls at half the rates for boys in similar classes. Fees in Vernacular schools were also slightly increased leaving the primary classes free in all schools. In all Vernacular girls' schools, primary departments of English girls' schools, and all schools for backward classes, instruction is still allowed to be imparted free. The fees prescribed are, in the opinion of Government, moderate when compared with those outside the State and are not incommensurate with the standard of instruction imparted or the liability of the people to contribute towards the cost of education. Government regret that no alteration in the new fee regulations is now possible.

165. Introduction of certain reforms for the advancement of female education.

Mr. S. Swamy Iyengar of Trivandrum (Nominated) suggested that all girls' schools might be placed entirely under the supervision and management of cultured ladies. To make female education really valuable, it was necessary to provide special arrangements for imparting instruction in girls' schools on national lines. Girls should be taught all those lessons which would be of practical utility to them at home and in society. They should be instructed in the elements of health and sanitation, in the art of cooking and growing vegetables, in sewing and in the ideals of life and traditions of their ancestors with the necessary adjustments that might be suited to their modern environments. It was also necessary that they should be made to familiarize themselves with the vernaculars of the country.

Mr. R. Narayana Pillai (Ettumanur) prayed for the appointment of a Lady Superintendent even by reducing the number of Range Inspectors to two.

Mr. P. Raman Tampi, B. A., M. L., (Trivandrum) said that the appointment of Inspectresses to supervise girls' schools was one of the subjects brought forward by him last year and, as he learnt that

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Government were taking some steps in the matter, he wished to add nothing.

Mr. S. Krishna Pilli (*Tiruvallah*) and *Mr. N. Kesavan Valia than* (*Kartigapalli*) requested that female education might be still further encouraged by the appointment of lady teachers and placing girls' schools under the control of Inspectresses.

Reply.—The suggestions of Mr. Swamy Iyengar will be noted and fresh useful subjects gradually introduced in girls schools. In His Highness the Maha Rajah's College for girls, even though the strength was 243, I was struck with the absence of a lady teacher for teaching native music. Government are on the look-out for a capable native music mistress for the College. It was suggested that the number of Range Inspectors might be reduced to two and an Inspectress appointed. The proposal is feasible and is, as Mr. Raman Tampi mentioned, now under contemplation. It is not possible to appoint an Inspectress in addition to the three Range Inspectors. As regards lady teachers also, male teachers will be replaced by these as far as possible.

The Assembly dispersed at 5-15 P. M., to meet again on Wednesday the 9th January.

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